

## Ode to the United States

Black and Indigenous people are dying of the highest rates of COVID-19 in this country. We both have parallel histories of oppression and exploitation by United States (U.S). The responses to our deaths from this pandemic are abysmal. We are often the essential workers, the least likely to be giving proper medical care, and unfortunately this is one of the many acts of violence against us in the U.S. Black men and woman are being killed at alarming rates by police, Indigenous too; our statistics from police brutality are near identical. Every day Indigenous, Black, and Trans woman go missing and are murdered and there are never any answers. The United States response to our deaths from COVID-19 and other forms of state sanction violence, shows how little our country cares about our wellbeing. Even with all this I still have hope for the future. Our ancestors were strong, resilient and did whatever they could do to ensure our survival. This generation will continue to do the same. From marching in the street for justice, to speaking our languages, growing our cultural foods, and practicing our ancestral religions we are strong, we will continue to survive and build a better future for the next generation.